

and has lobbied other countries to support this position. In the past, Clinton administration officials have assured us that Taiwan's accession would closely follow China's. In February, U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky testified to the House of Representatives that "... the only issue with respect to Taiwan's accession ... pertains to timing ... there is a tacit understanding ... among WTO members in general—but also, frankly, between China and Taiwan—that China would enter first and China would not block in any way Taiwan's accession thereafter, and that might be immediately thereafter or within days or hours or seconds or weeks. ...". Later that same month, in response to a statement by Senator ROTH that "... there's a great deal of concern that Taiwan might be blocked [from entering the WTO] once China secures such membership," Ambassador Barshefsky testified that "... the United States would do everything in our power to ensure that that does not happen in any respect because Taiwan's entry is also critical."

The WTO plays an important role in promoting free and fair trade. Under the WTO, member countries agree on a set of rules and principles for trade, which in turn creates a stable and predictable trade environment. Secondly, the WTO provides a mechanism to enforce these rules, including a procedure for countries to resolve trade disputes. And finally, the WTO provides a forum for negotiations to reduce trade barriers worldwide.

Since the founding of its predecessor GATT in 1984, membership in the organization has grown from 23 countries to 136 today. The general view among economists is that a more predictable trade environment, and a reduction of trade barriers, has contributed to the unprecedented economic prosperity that most countries currently enjoy. Statistics support this view: In 1998, world exports were 18 times larger than in 1950, and world GDP was 6 times greater in 1998 than 1950, according to the Congressional Research Service.

As I mentioned earlier, the United States should support Taiwan's admission to the WTO, not merely for economic reasons, but also to honor our commitments to a close, long-standing ally, and to demonstrate our intention to support democracies that respect the rule of law.

When our Nation switched diplomatic recognition to mainland China, we also enacted the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act to state our continued commitment to the security of Taiwan. This law states, "... the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China rests upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means." It goes on to say the U.S. would "... consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to

the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States." And finally, it says the U.S. will sell "... defense articles and defense services in such quantity as many be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability."

China's leaders have steadfastly refused to renounce the use of force in retaking Taiwan, and have issued thinly veiled threats to use nuclear weapons should the U.S. intervene. For example, in March, the main newspaper of China's military said, "China is neither Iraq nor Yugoslavia, but a very special country ... it is a country that has certain abilities of launching a strategic counterattack and the capacity of launching a long-distance strike. Probably it is not a wise move to be at war with a country like China, a point which U.S. policymakers know fairly well." Another article in a Chinese military-owned newspaper went further, saying, "The United States will not sacrifice 200 million Americans for 20 million Taiwanese. They will finally acknowledge the difficulty and withdraw."

In outlining what became known as the "Truman Doctrine," President Harry Truman said:

At the present moment in world history nearly every nation must choose between alternative ways of life. The choice is too often not a free one. One way of life is based upon the will of the majority, and is distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion, and freedom from political oppression. The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio, fixed elections, and the suppression of personal freedoms. I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or outside pressures. I believe that we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way.

Harry Truman spoke these words in 1947, at a time when it was very difficult to stand up to communism on the march from the Soviet Union. The challenge we face today in dealing with China and Taiwan should not be as great as the courageous struggle for the cold war. The United States cannot support China's entry into the WTO without equally supporting Taiwan's entry into the WTO. This is but one of many signals we should be sending to the communist regime in Beijing, about America's determination to meet our commitments and our resolve to support Taiwan.

NOTICE OF HEARING

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND REGULATION

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a legislative hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Energy Re-

search, Development, Production and Regulation.

The hearing will take place on, Wednesday, September 20, 2000, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 2933, a bill to amend provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 relating to remedial action of uranium and thorium processing sites.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please call Trici Heninger at (202) 224-7875.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Martha McSally, a fellow in Senator KYL's office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of H.R. 4444.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an intern, Leslie Smith be granted the privilege of the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Jason McNamara, a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor during the remainder of the debate on this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a fellow from my office, Kristin Fauser, be permitted to have floor privileges during the remainder of the debate on H.R. 4444, the PNTR legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Steven Theriault be granted the privilege of the floor during the debate on H.R. 4444.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE HERBERT H. BATEMAN, OF VIRGINIA

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 352, submitted earlier by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.